

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants received the Office Action dated July 29, 2006, in which the Examiner: 1) rejected claims 1, 5, 6, 12, 14-16 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Chandrakasan et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,967,522, hereinafter "Chandrakasan"); 2) rejected claims 2-4, 9-11, 13, 17 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Chandrakasan in view of Sadri (U.S. Pat. No. 6,690,652, hereinafter "Sadri"); and 3) rejected claims 7, 8 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Chandrakasan in view of Atkinson (U.S. Pat. No. 5,991,883, hereinafter "Atkinson"). With this Response, Applicants traverse all claim rejections.

Chandrakasan is directed to an adaptive power supply to provide power to a particular kind of transistor structure (a "triple well" transistor structure). See e.g., col. 2, lines 43-52. Chandrakasan explains that the disclosed system responds to an "operating condition" to control power consumption of the device in which the adaptive power supply is located. Examples of such operating conditions are given as temperature and workload. Col. 2, lines 36-38. Chandrakasan is focused on reducing power consumption by actively controlling power supply voltages. Col. 2, lines 65-67; col. 6, lines 18-21 ("Power dissipation may be reduced...through dynamic adjustment of supply voltage...").

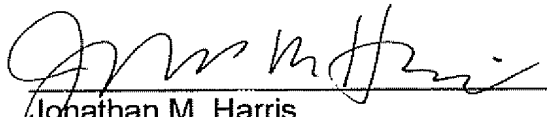
Claim 1 requires, among other limitations, "if an operating voltage for the system is between two thresholds, the power management logic forces the electrical load to operate in a reduced power state." Chandrakasan does not teach or even suggest forcing a load to operate in a reduced power state if an operating voltage is between two thresholds. Instead, Chandrakasan teaches adjusting power supply voltages based on operating conditions such as temperature and workload. None of the other art of record satisfies this deficiency of Chandrakasan. At least for this reason, claim 1 and all claims dependent thereon are in condition for allowance.

Independent claims 12, 16, and 18 contain the same or similar limitation as claim 1. Thus, claims 12, 16, and 18 and their dependent claims are patentable at least for the same or similar reason as claim 1.

The Examiner also used Sadri in alleging that various claims are obvious. For example, the Examiner rejected claim 2 as obvious over the combination of Chandrakasan and Sadri. Claim 2 requires "a pair of comparators coupling the operating voltage to inputs of the power management logic." The Examiner acknowledged that Chandrakasan does not disclose the claimed pair of comparators. Applicants respectfully submit, however, that the Examiner is incorrect in alleging that Sadri discloses a pair of comparators as required by claim 2. Applicants find no teaching in Sadri of a pair of comparators. The Examiner pointed to a passage from col. 4 of Sadri as allegedly teaching the claims pair of comparators. That passage, however, states that a mobile station compares power values of two channels (formed between the mobile station and a base station) and selects an antenna "that propagates through the better channel path." Col. 4, lines 39-48. Sadri has nothing to do with comparators coupling operating voltage to inputs of power management logic.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,


Jonathan M. Harris
PTO Reg. No. 44,144
CONLEY ROSE, P.C.
(713) 238-8000 (Phone)
(713) 238-8008 (Fax)
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
Legal Dept., M/S 35
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400